

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)
Libby Asbestos Superfund Site
March 6, 2012

Session Summary

SESSION OBJECTIVES

1. Present the new CAG goals and structure to those in attendance.
2. Begin initial discussion about Institutional Controls (ICs).
3. Discuss CAG's role in future EPA sessions including their annual meeting in May.
4. Identify with those in attendance – desired 2012 CAG meeting topics

CAG MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Brad Black (TAG, CAG)
Eileen Carney (TAG
Donna Martin (TAG)
LeRoy Thom
Virginia Tribe (Facilitator)

JoElyn Bruce (TAG)
K. W. Maki (Libby Schools)
Mike Noble (TAG, CAG)
(TAG)

TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS/OBSERVERS

Mike Cirian (EPA)
Libby Faulk (EPA)
Deb McKeon (EPA)
Christina Progross (EPA)

Liz Fagen (EPA)
Victor Ketellapper (EPA)
John Podolinsky (MTDEQ)
Carolyn Rutland (MTDEQ)

COMPLETED AGENDA ITEMS

Where is the Community Advisory Group (CAG) today?

CAG Goals for 2012

- Continue to provide an opportunity and a communication environment for civil discourse and problem-solving about issues related to the cleanup.
- Adapt CAG structure to provide the community with several opportunities within a year to have useful dialogue and problem-solve about new and evolving issues important to them and where EPA and/or the State need community participation. (Examples of those issues include Institutional Controls (IC's); activity-based sampling; gardens and gardening in the area; using the forest and fire; "best management practices" as a notion for living in a cleanup area; proposed EPA documents, etc.).
- Continue to maintain separation from the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) so CAG can concentrate on community and resident issues.

CAG Adjusted Meeting Structure and Rationale

- Schedule CAG meetings to follow TAG meetings - for the convenience of busy community members and also for efficient use of travel time and resources by EPA and State employees who have to travel to attend. (The County Health Board and TAG have been alerted to the change with CAG and are supportive.)
- Use CAG and community member time and energy most effectively by reducing the number of CAG meetings per year and adapting CAG to a forum or facilitating structure to explore and discuss issues identified by the community and/or by EPA and the State related to the evolving cleanup.

Future CAG Activities

- CAG will have an information “table/station” at EPA’s Annual Meeting on May 8 where community members can learn more about CAG; identify specific issues they would like to have discussed in a future CAG forum; and look at ways they might become involved with CAG.
(Leroy and Eileen agreed to arrange a conference call with available CAG members and the facilitator for April 10 at 1:00 to plan CAG’s “table”.)
- CAG will have their first “forum” in June with Institutional Controls as the topic and County and EPA personnel available to participate in the discussion. The CAG forum will follow the TAG meeting - Time and place will be announced. The discussion session will include the following:
 - What is an Institutional Control and what are examples?
 - What is the role of Institutional Controls in the cleanup and how might they “affect me”?
 - Who has what part in Institutional Controls?
 - What concerns/questions do those in attendance have related to Institutional Controls? How should we address them?
- Possible fall session/issue “fair” with TAG and the Health Board with the following first cut at possible “fair” items:
 - Specific information/modules about community Issues
 - “Teaching” about actual activities and best management practices
 - Simulated problem-solving situations
 - Update on “risk” from TAG
 - Update on health issues

Updates

EPA reported the following:

- The recently selected 22 member Scientific Advisory Board is moving along with their comments on the Risk Assessment. It appears that they have initial agreement with the several areas including pleural plaques; derivation of values and assessment of risk; and non-cancer events. Their report is expected in about 6 months. Without significant changes, EPA will proceed to the final and from there to the remedy decision.
- Riprap is being replaced at Riverfront Park with a goal of completing work in the Park by June 30.
- The draft remedial investigation for Operating Units 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 has been issued with everything but risk assessment. Completion of the work on exposure levels will help toward completion.
- Ongoing cleanup examinations and work at the mine is related to risk to ecological receptors such as fish and amphibians in creeks in the area and watersheds and human activity-based risk.
- Residential cleanup is moving to a neighborhood approach – with lots of response needed related to broken water pipes, etc. “Geo-units” were explained as one address is one property - in terms of “counting” properties and the cleanup.
- EPA will be participating in a gardening class with the college – “Re-do your gardens” this spring.
- It is EPA’s intention to have remedial investigation data collection completed this summer – with the city of Libby ecological risk assessment to include “nature” sampling/ambient air sampling.
- Contamination in forest bark and duff is more widespread than earlier though – as much as 8 miles away with greater concentrations in ash than smoke. Activity-based sampling is helping establish “best management practices” for commercial users and fire management activities.

DEQ reported the following:

- Work is proceeding for Operating Unit 7/Troy – with a removal list for summer including woodpiles, land fill, and resurrecting ambient air sampling.

The School District and EPA reported the following:

- The “Libby Legacy Project” is moving forward through the Operations and Maintenance Group with Sandy Matheny as the facilitator. They are compiling information and working to design a Continuing Education course about Libby mining and associated history as part of the College’s curriculum. District kids will benefit in knowing about, understanding, and valuing their community’s history and legacy.